

A CAMERA TRIP THROUGH **ELLINGTON FIELD**



A PICTURE BOOK OF THE FIELD AND ITS ACTIVITIES



The Undersecretary of War
meets the Commanding Officer.



Col. W. H. Reid,
commanding Ellington Field, Texas.



History of the Field

SPANNING CLOSELY the life of an American, the history of Ellington Field, Texas, is easily divided into two sections, that of a youthful fledgling during World War I, and that of a mature man with great productive power in its greater role in World War II. It is located about midway between Houston and Galveston near the Gulf of Mexico.

The airfield was first established early in 1917 by the War Department, and named for Second Lieutenant Eric L. Ellington, a pioneer of military aviation who was the victim of a crash of a pusher-type plane near San Diego, Cal., in 1913. Hundreds of pilots were trained at the historic field during this period of its existence, including Col. W. H. Reid, now commanding the new Ellington, and countless others now high in military and civilian aviation. It was abandoned in 1920 by the War Department but a few months later re-opened as a base for a pursuit group and remained in use until about five years later when it was again abandoned.

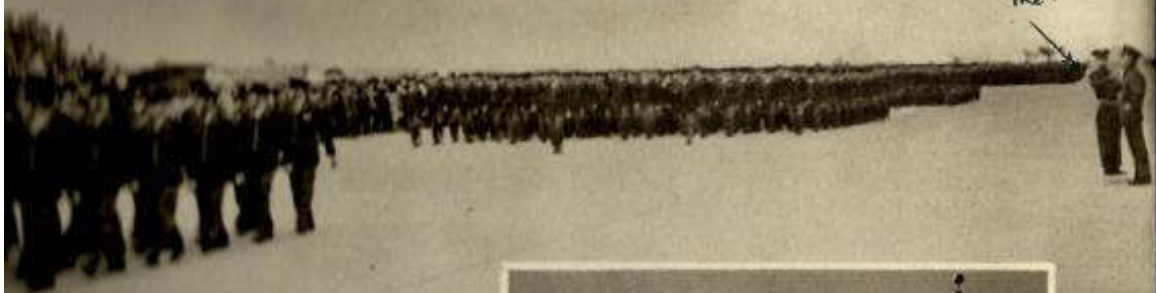
Once again, in 1940, the historic acres of the air field assumed a heroic role, and in a period of a few months a giant Aviation Cadet training field was established that was to make history. Originally intended as a bomber training site, the War Department in its expansion program also included the instruction of bombardiers and several classes of pilots skilled in multi-motor operation and also groups of navigators ready to assist in the aerial operations — in fact the first of the now world-famous "combat crews" were graduated.

As the United States continued the gigantic expansion of its Army Air Force training program, Ellington Field came to employ an even greater role. Today it not only supplies the advanced training for hundreds of pilots in multi-motor plane operations, but it also equips literally thousands of bombardiers and navigators with the fundamental technical knowledge required in one of the largest pre-flight schools in the nation. Yes, combat crews are cradled here — and the Axis sees their maturity — almost daily accounts in news dispatches concerning some graduate of Ellington Field supplies sufficient testimony.

Ellington Field continues its growth, cognizant of its great heritage, proud of its present achievements, and hopeful of its future in a peaceful world.



This is during one of the parades on Saturdays



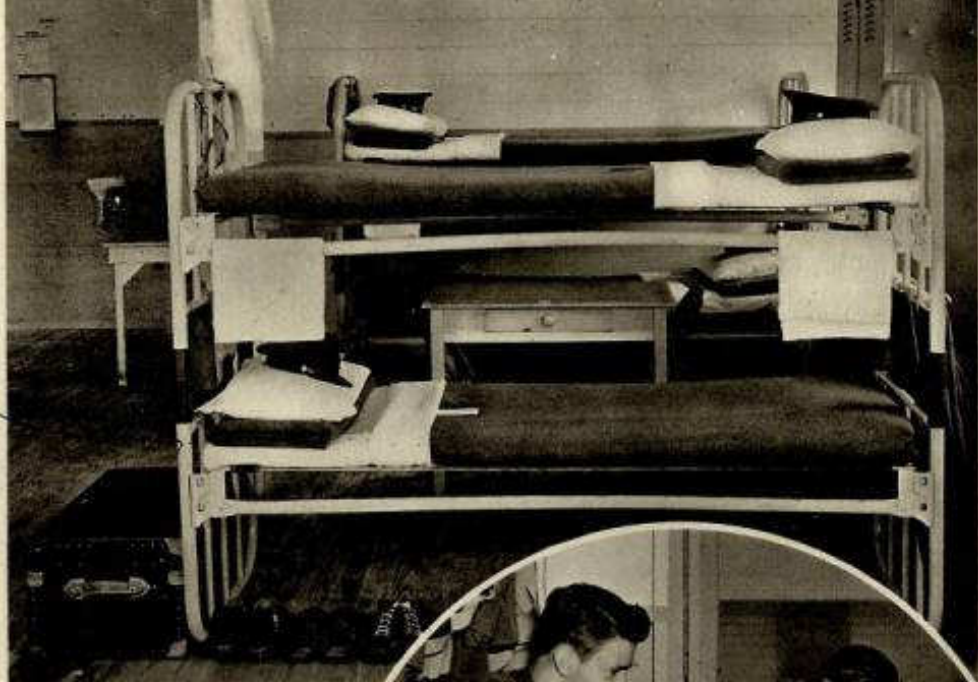
Cadets in review
on flying ramp.

Post Flag—self-explanatory.



Aviation Cadet Bombardier-Navigators
pass in review with massed colors of the
Allied Nations,

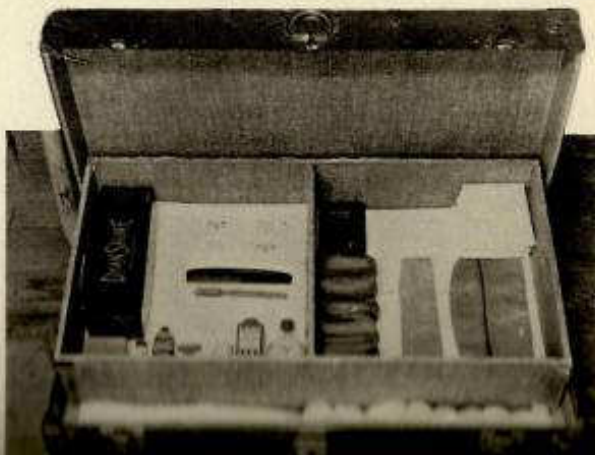




The first thing a soldier must learn is the importance of neatness. His quarters are immaculate at all times with each item of his wardrobe in a precisely designated place.



Getting ready for inspection.

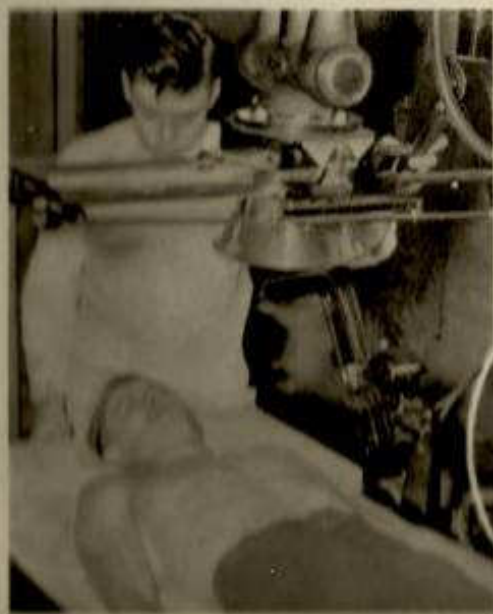




Chaplain advises Cadet.



Chapel organist.



Aviation Cadets
draw gas masks.



Newly arrived Aviation Cadets draw
equipment.



Ellington meets Ellington. John Ellington, of Greensboro, North Carolina, an Aviation Cadet here, sees a portrait of his illustrious hero relative, Lt. Eric Ellington, for whom the field was named.



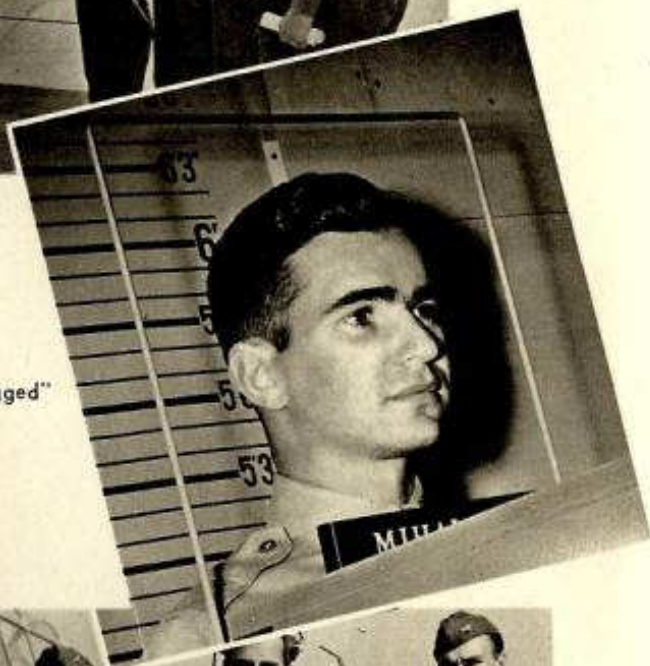
Fitting clothes to the Aviation Cadets.





Aviation Cadets report
to flying line.

Aviation Cadet gets "mugged"
for identification pass.



Typical Aviation Cadet pilots.



A class of Aviation Cadets arrives.



Another mascot.



On the Ramp, where we parade.



COME AND GET IT

Brace, Mister!



Nearly a ton of fresh Gulf shrimp go into this one Aviation Cadet mess.





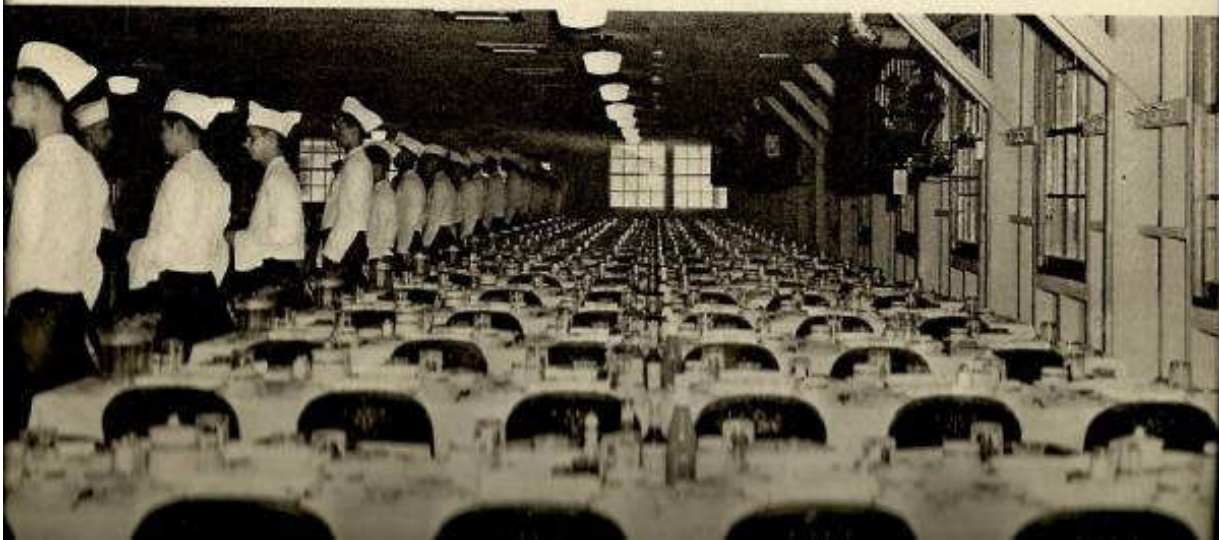
Chow time.

Aviation Cadet chow.

Good chow, huh?



Aviation Cadet seated mess.





Newspaper girl
gets interviews.



Bunk fatigue.



Bombardier-Navigator
collaboration.

Shangri-La here, too.



Time out.



3 lieutenants of the Army Nurse Corps stationed at Ellington Field look over a bi-motored trainer. They are wearing summer uniforms.

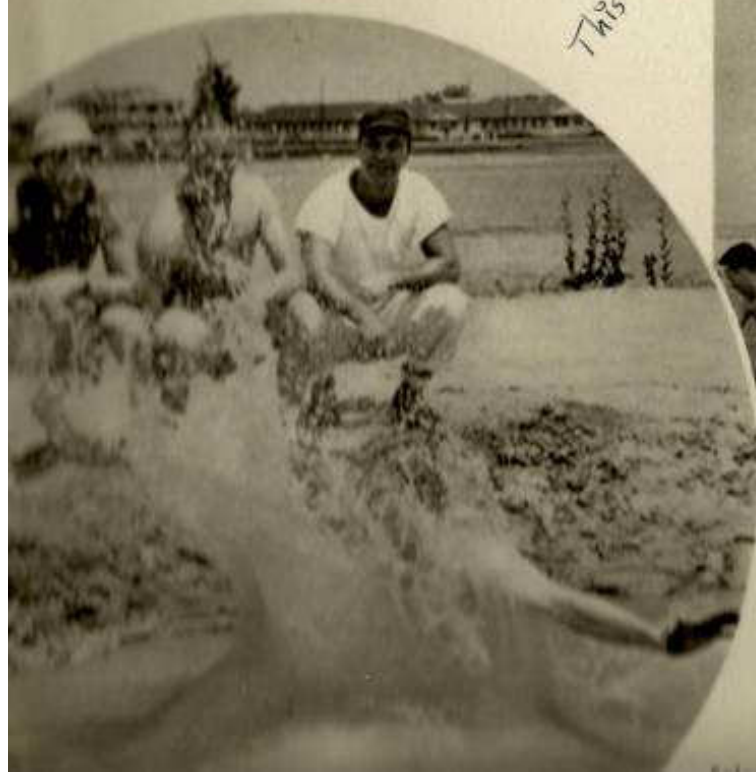




Bombardier-Navigators get rugged.

OBSTACLE COURSE

This what is done for P.T.



Aviation Cadets toughen up on Jacob's ladder.

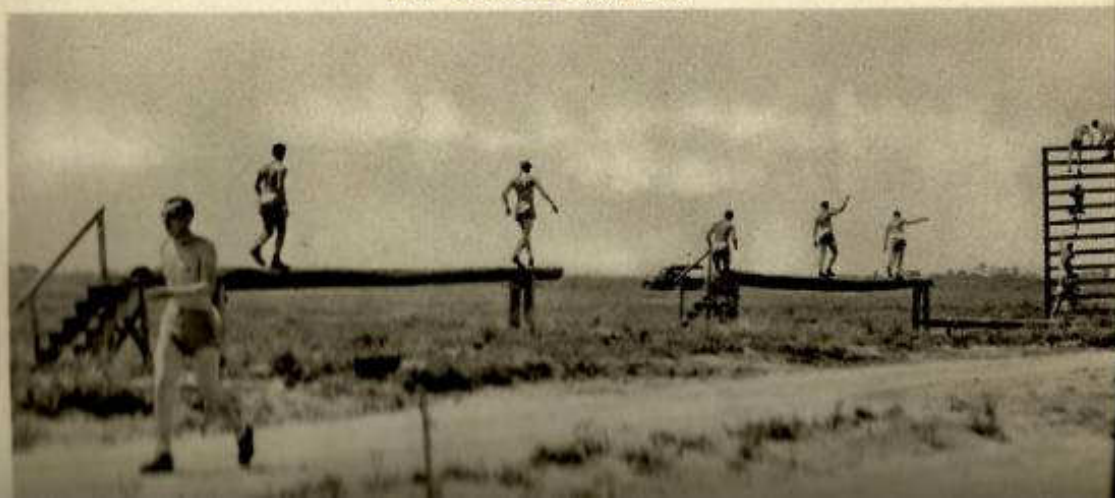


More Jacob's ladder.



One phase of the Aerial Ranger Run.

Part of Aerial Ranger Run.





A future Bombardier with his calling card.

... — V for



A formation of
motored training



Formation of
bi-motored
planes
training Co



victory!



of AT-17 bi-
g planes.

ion of 3 AT-9
red training
flown by Avia-
del pilots.



AT-9 bi-motored training plane.

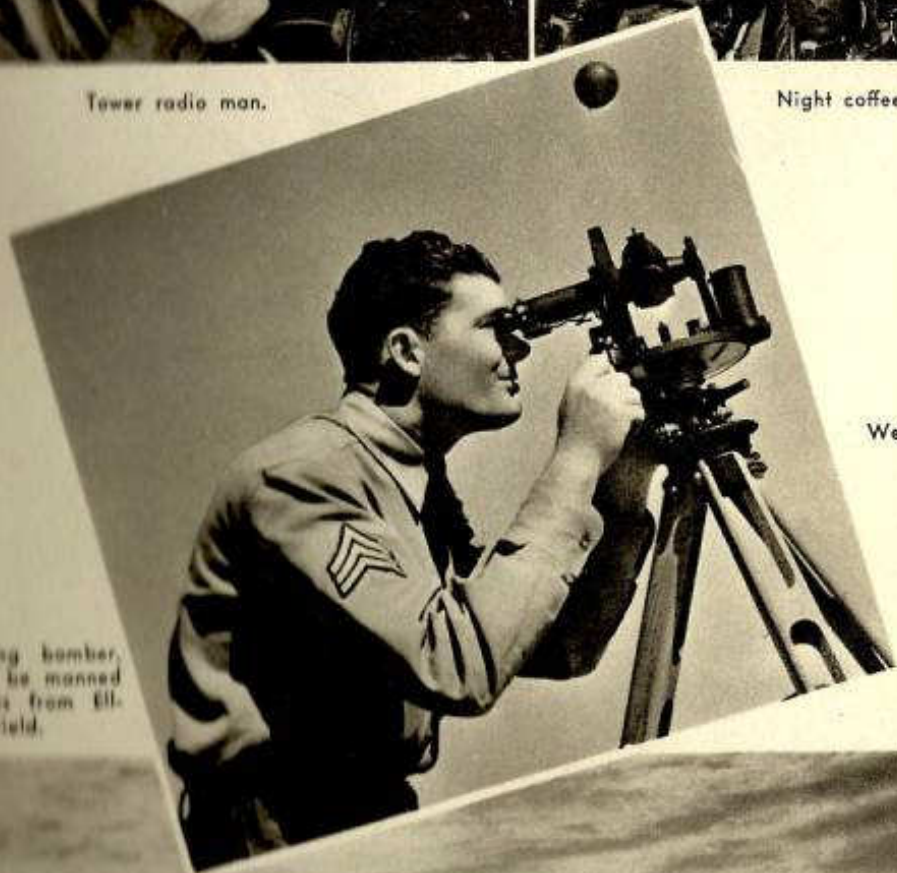




Tower radio man.



Night coffee "on the line."



Weather man.

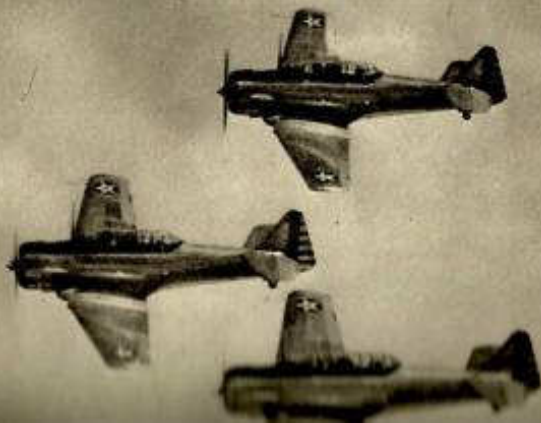
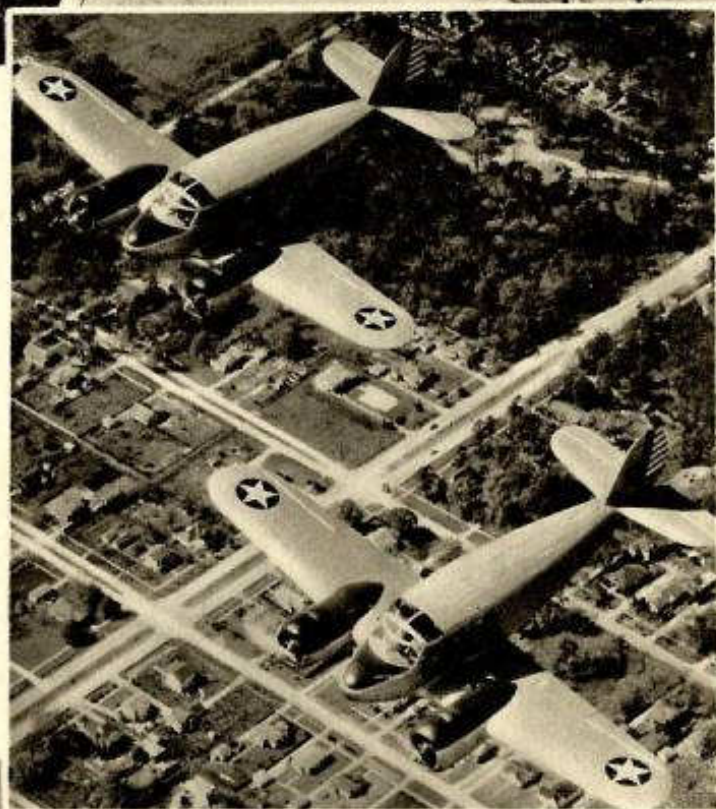
visiting bomber
on to be manned
y crews from Ell-
ington Field.



Some day he'll navigate
an Army bomber.



2 AT-17 bi-motored transition
trainers winging their way high
over Houston.

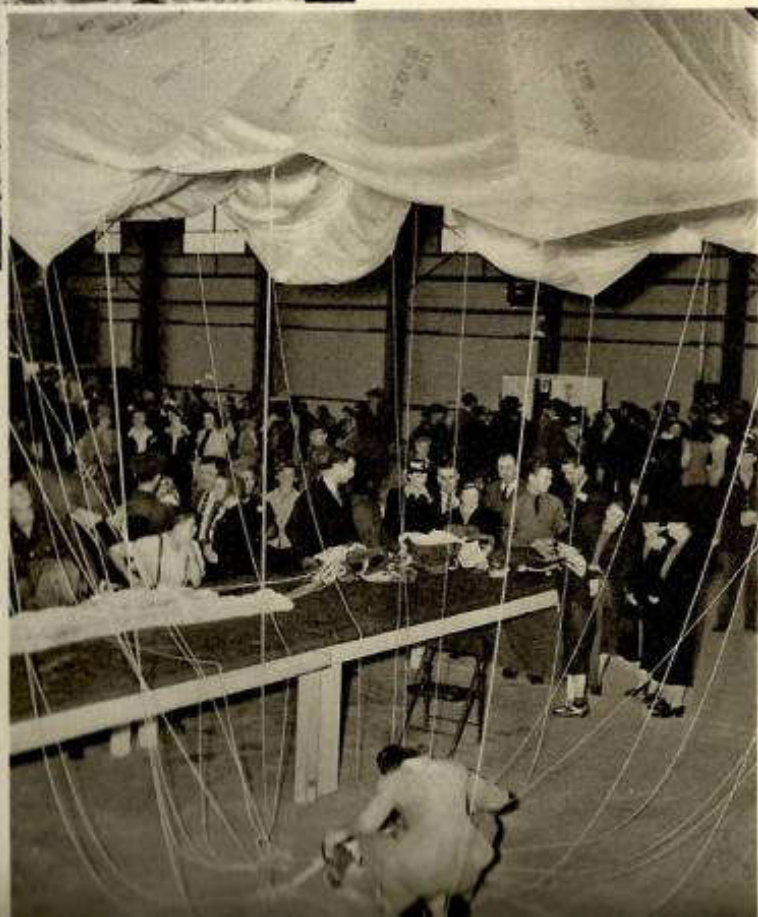


Formation of 3 AT-6
single-motored training
planes.



Packing the silk.

parachutes



Civilians inspect
serial life raft.



Bombardier Aviation Cadets pick their shots from model of Tokyo.



Ready for gas mask drill.



Doubling up.



Laying some aerial battle plans.



Dive bomber tactics.



Navigation problem.



Aircraft identification.



Drawing an early lead.

Classroom.



Aviation Cadet Bombadiers check on Newton's theory.

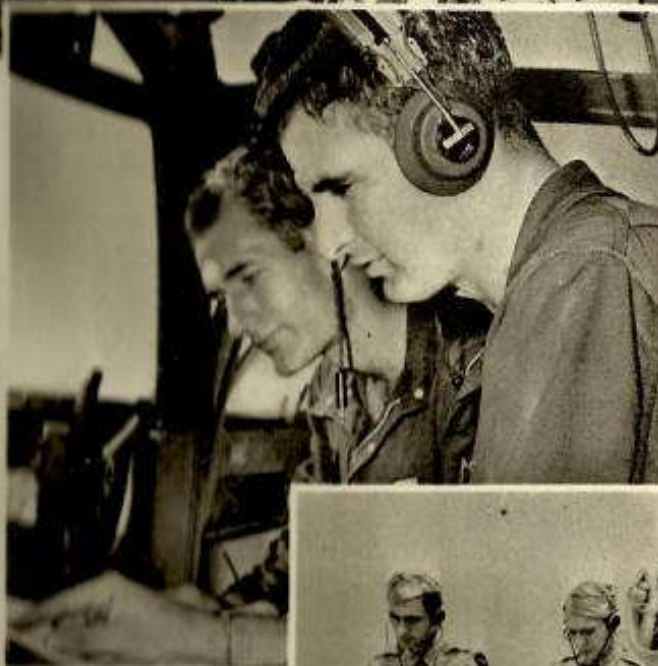


Surface craft identification.





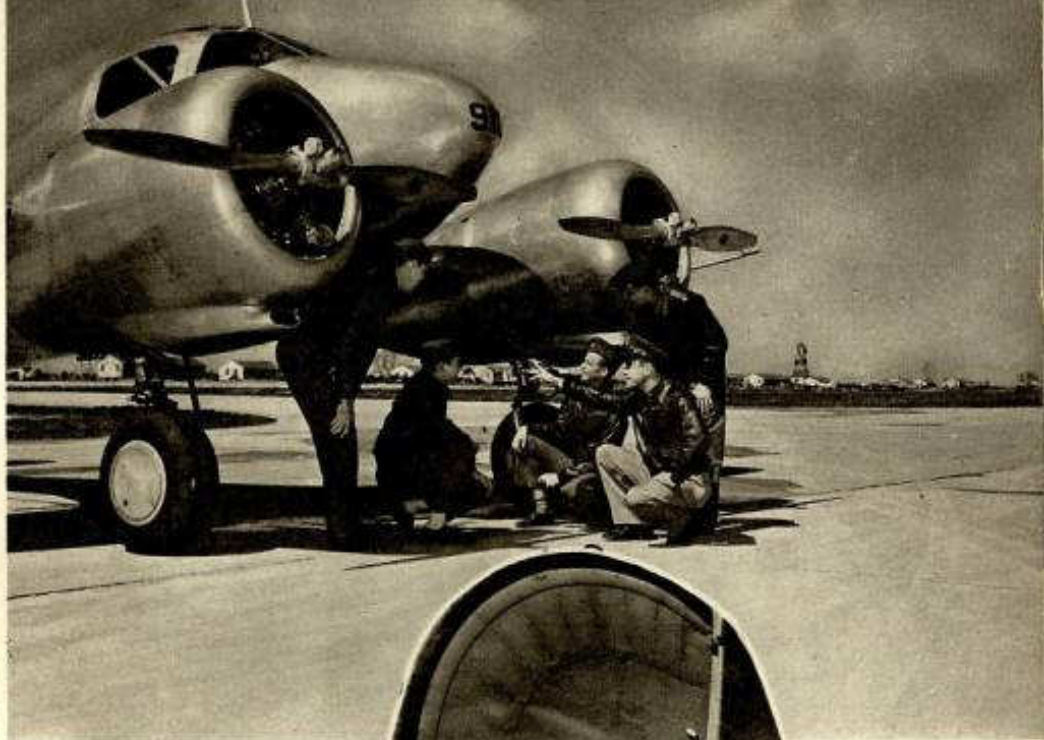
Code practice.



Plotting their course.



Code practice on line despite din of roaring motors.



Special instruction.



Mechanics send message
to Tokyo via bomber.



Last minute instructions.



Night in transient hangar



ENGINE MAINTENANCE

Gassing up.

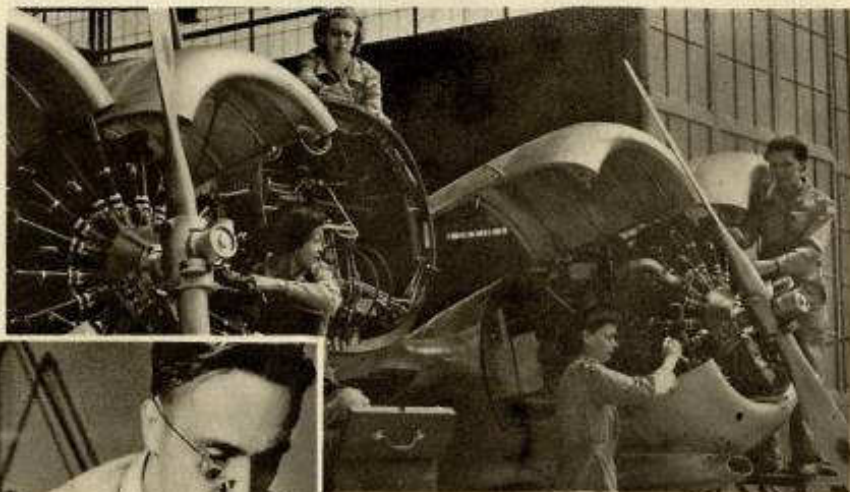


Propeller specialist.





Girl mechanics help keep 'em flying at Ellington Field.



Girl mechanics on the job.



The corporal gets a tip from a girl instrument expert.





They keep 'em
flying, too.

Twin girl mechanics.



Trouble shooter.

Radio man.



Gassing up.





Proudest moment!

Getting his wings!



Visiting Polish air heroes tell their experiences.



G.I. buys War Bonds, too — count 'em!



Field Band.

Recreation Hall entertainment.



Harmony.

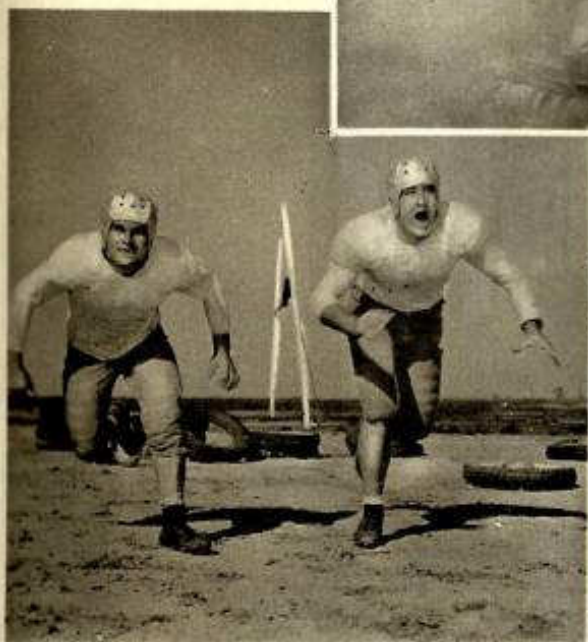
Aviation Cadet Drum and Bugle Corps parades in Houston.



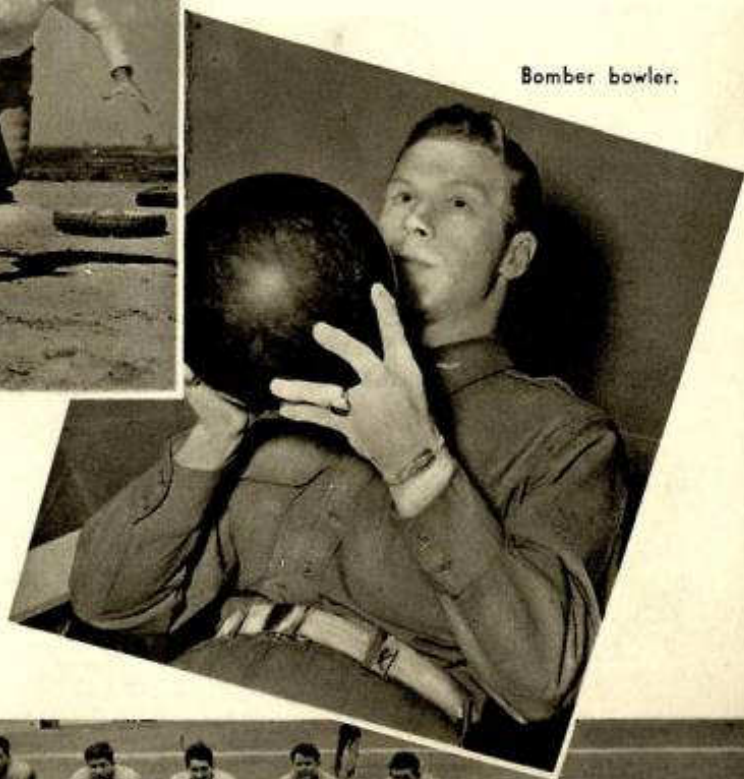
SPORTS



Safel



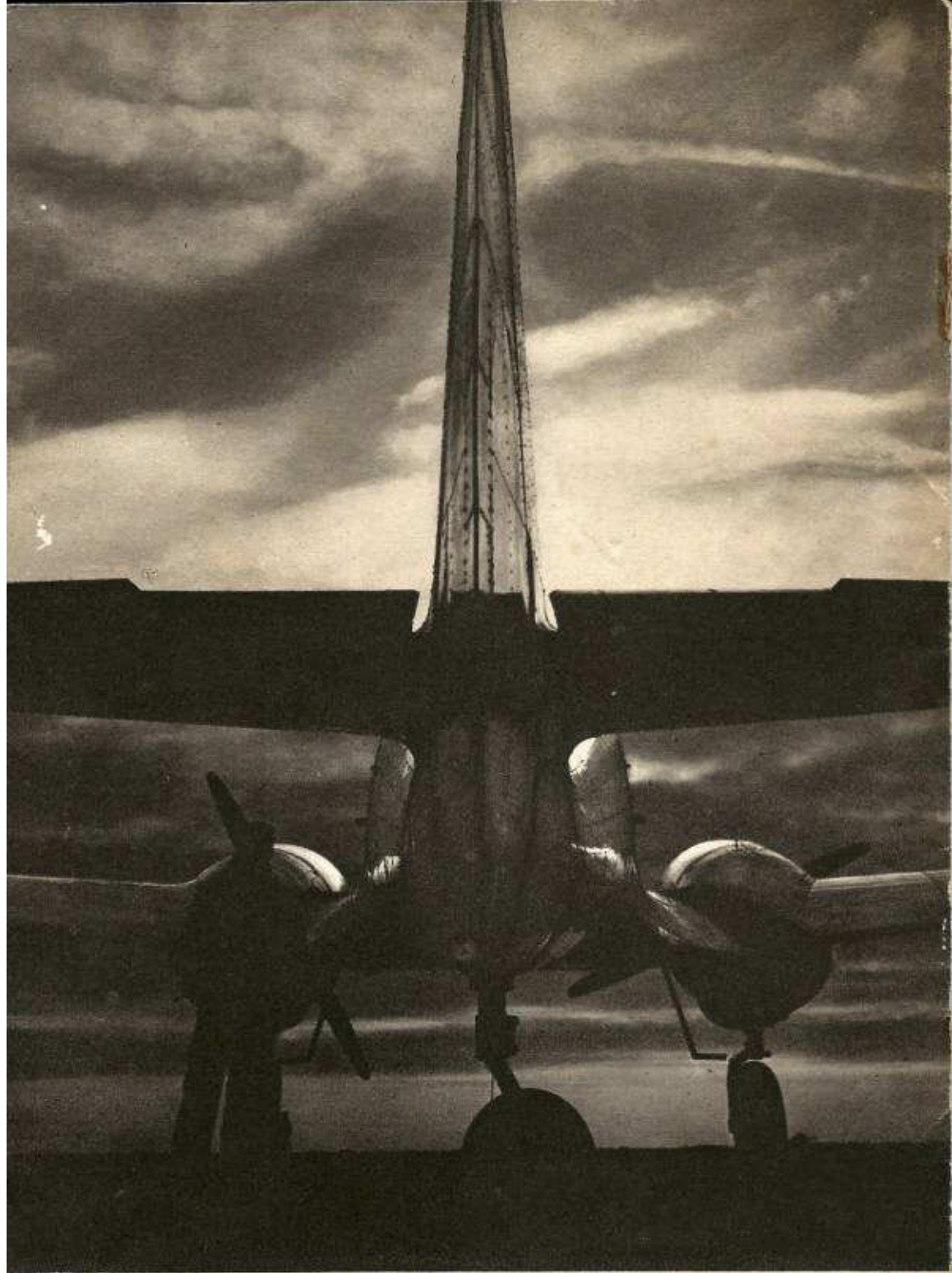
Football, too.



Bomber bowler.

Pigskin pilots.





This book planned and printed in Gravure by The Ullman Company, Brooklyn, N.Y. We acknowledge with appreciation the courtesy and cooperation of the Ellington Field Public Relations Office.